

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

I, _____, the undersigned do hereby read and understand the following;

Please initial each numbered paragraph and sign and date where indicated at the end of the statement.

1. The Respiratory Care Board of California (Board) has statutory authority regarding the enforcement and administration of the Respiratory Care Practice Act (RCPA).	
2. No respiratory care practitioner applicant may begin practice until a VALID work permit is obtained from the Board.	
3. During the application period, the applicant shall be identified as a "RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER APPLICANT" and may only practice with a <u>valid work permit</u> while under the direct and immediate supervision of a licensed respiratory care practitioner.	
4. If an applicant FAILS the examination, the work permit becomes INVALID exactly one week from the date the examination was taken.	
5. No person who has not been licensed by the Board shall engage in the practice of respiratory care despite holding a CRT or RRT credential.	
6. No person shall engage in the practice of respiratory care or represent him/herself as such through verbal claim, sign advertisement, letterhead, business card, badge/name tag, or other representation unless he or she holds a valid license issued by the Board.	
7. On or before the birthday of a licensed practitioner in every other year, following the initial licensure, the Board shall mail a renewal notice to the latest address of record. A license that is not renewed by the expiration date becomes invalid and subject to delinquent fees.	
8. To renew a license each respiratory care practitioner shall report compliance with the continuing education requirement. The license shall not be renewed or reinstated until such verification is received.	
9. To renew an expired license within three (3) years of the date of expiration, the applicant shall provide documentation of completion of the required continuing education and pay all past renewal and delinquent fees. Once a license has expired for three years, the license is deemed cancelled and cannot be renewed or reinstated.	
10. No person or corporation shall knowingly employ a person who alleges he/she is a respiratory care practitioner without a license granted under the RCPA.	
11. If a licensee has knowledge that another person may be in violation of, or has violated, any of the statutes or regulations administered by the board, the licensee shall report this information to the board in writing and shall cooperate with the board in furnishing information or assistance as may be required.	
12. Any employer of a respiratory care practitioner shall report to the Board the suspension or termination for cause of any practitioner in their employ. "Suspension or termination for cause" is defined to mean suspension or termination from employment for any of the following reasons: (1) Use of controlled substances or alcohol to such an extent that it impairs the ability to safely practice respiratory care. (2) Unlawful sale of controlled substances or other prescription items. (3) Patient neglect, physical harm to a patient, or sexual contact with a patient. (4) Falsification of medical records. (5) Gross incompetence or negligence. (6) Theft from patients, other employees, or the employer.	
13. Each applicant and licensee must report, in writing, any and all address changes of address to the Respiratory Care Board within 14 days of such a change.	

I certify under penalty of perjury that I have read and understand this statement of understanding. I have also received a copy of the current statutes and regulations governing the practice of respiratory care. Further, I understand that violations of law, unauthorized or unlawful practice and misrepresentation are grounds for disciplinary action.

Applicant Signature

Date